ORIGINAL OPEN MEETING



MEMORANDUM

410

TO:

THE COMMISSION

FROM:

Utilities Division

DATE:

January 30, 2007

RE:

GLOBAL CROSSING TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.; GLOBAL CROSSING NORTH AMERICAN NETWORKS, INC.; GLOBAL CROSSING LOCAL SERVICES, INC.; AND GLOBAL CROSSING TELEMANAGEMENT, INC. – APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL TO ENCUMBER ASSETS IN CONNECTION WITH NEW FINANCING (DOCKET NOS. T-02438B-06-0375, T-02761B-06-0375,

T-03658A-06-0375 AND T-03539A-06-0375)

Attached is Staff's Report (docketed December 29, 2006) and recommended order for the application of Global Crossing North American Networks, Inc., Global Crossing Local Services, Inc., and Global Crossing Telemanagement, Inc. – application for approval to encumber assets in connection new financing. Staff recommends conditional approval for each applicant to pledge assets.

Ernest G. Johnson

Director

Utilities Division

EGJ:DWC:lhm\MAS

ORIGINATOR: Darron W. Carlson

Arizona Corporation Commission
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AZ CORP COMMISSION DOCUMENT CONTROL

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MEMORANDUM

RECEIVED

TO:

Docket Control

EA for EGJ

2006 DEC 29 P 2: 08

FROM:

Ernest G. Johnson

Director

Utilities Division

AZ CORP COMMISSION DOCUMENT CONTROL

DATE:

December 29, 2006

RE:

STAFF REPORT FOR GLOBAL CROSSING TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.; GLOBAL CROSSING NORTH AMERICAN NETWORKS, INC.; GLOBAL CROSSING LOCAL SERVICES, INC.; AND GLOBAL CROSSING TELEMANAGEMENT, INC. APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL TO ENCUMBER ASSETS IN CONNECTION WITH NEW FINANCING (DOCKET NOS. T-02438B-06-0375, T-02761B-06-0375, T-03658A-06-0375,

T-03539A-06-0375)

Attached is the Staff Report for Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc.; Global Crossing North American Networks, Inc.; Global Crossing Local Services, Inc.; and Global Crossing Telemanagement, Inc. application for approval to incur debt and/or encumber assets as security for new debt financing incurred by each other and/or their parent firm. Staff recommends conditional approval for each applicant to pledge assets.

EGJ:MEB:tdp

Originator: Michael Bailey

Service List for: Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. et al Docket Nos. T-02438B-06-0375 et al

Ms. Joan S. Burke Osborn Maledon P.A. 2929 North Central, Suite 2100 Phoenix, Arizona 85012

Ms. Joan M. Griffin Ms. Melissa S. Conway Kelley Drye & Warren LLP 3050 K Street NW, Suite 400 Washington, DC 20007

Mr. Michael J. Shortley, III Vice President & General Counsel Global Crossing North America, Inc. 1080 Pittsford-Victor Road Pittsford, New York 14534

Mr. Christopher C. Kempley Chief Counsel, Legal Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Mr. Ernest G. Johnson Director, Utilities Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Ms. Lyn Farmer Chief Administrative Law Judge, Hearing Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

STAFF REPORT UTILITIES DIVISION ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

GLOBAL CROSSING TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.; GLOBAL CROSSING NORTH AMERICAN NETWORKS, INC.; GLOBAL CROSSING LOCAL SERVICES, INC.; AND GLOBAL CROSSING TELEMANAGEMENT, INC. DOCKET NOS. T-02438B-06-0375, T-02761B-06-0375, T-03658A-06-0375, AND T-03539A-06-0375

APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL TO ENCUMBER ASSETS IN CONNECTION WITH NEW FINANCING

STAFF ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Staff Report for Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc.; Global Crossing North American Networks, Inc.; Global Crossing Local Services, Inc.; and Global Crossing Telemanagement, Inc., Docket Nos. T-02438B-06-0375, T-02761B-06-0375, T-03658A-06-0375, T-03539A-06-0375, is the responsibility of the Staff member listed below. Michael Bailey is responsible for the financial review and analysis.

Michael Bailey

Public Utilities Analyst III

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY GLOBAL CROSSING TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. ET AL DOCKET NOS. T-02438B-06-0375 ET AL

Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. ("GCTI")¹, Global Crossing North American Networks, Inc. ("GCNAN")², Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. ("GCLSI")³, and Global Crossing Telemanagement, Inc. ("GC Telemanagement")⁴ collectively ("Applicants") are wholly-owned subsidiaries of Global Crossing North America, Inc. ("Parent") and are non-dominant telecommunications carriers with authority to provide competitive local exchange, intrastate, and private line services within the state of Arizona. The Applicants filed an application with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") on June 2, 2006, requesting approval pursuant to A.R.S. §40-285 and R14-2-804(B)(1) to provide guarantee, serve as borrowers or co-borrowers, or otherwise provide security, as part of financing arrangements being arranged by Parent.

The Applicants request authorization to pledge assets as security and/or serve as borrowers or co-borrowers with Parent in connection with up to \$200 million of new debt financing that includes a \$55 million revolving senior credit facility and \$145 million as letters of credit, secured and unsecured debentures and term loans. The Applicants' contemplate asset pledges that include, but are not limited to, receivables, tangible personal property, equipment, intellectual property, their stock as well as substantially all of their North American assets.

The Applicants and/or Parent intend to use the proceeds for general corporate purposes, capital expenses, working capital, and acquisition of other telecommunications companies and/or telecommunications equipment. The Applicants assert that the financing arrangement will provide the financial resources needed to further grow and expand their business and to compete in a highly competitive telecommunications market.

Staff's financial analysis indicates that the Applicants' financial metrics for the proposed borrowing are not consistent with sound financial practices. However, foreign public service corporations, such as Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc., that provide communication service whose facilities are also used in interstate commerce are exempt from application of A.R.S. §40-301 that prohibits authorization of debt unless the Commission finds that the debt issuance is compatible with sound financial practices. GCTI is the only entity among the Applicants that is participating directly in the borrowing, and Staff finds that it satisfies the criteria for exemption under A.R.S. §40-301(D). GCTI also provides telecommunications services in competition with other providers and is not an incumbent provider of telecommunications services in Arizona. Its customers have alternate service provider choices to mitigate any inconvenience that may result from an inability by GTCI to provide service. Further, the anticipated lender is a sophisticated investor, and therefore, presumed to have the

¹ GCTI was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 54505.

² GCNAN was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 60143.

³ GCLSI was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 61622.

⁴ GC Telemanagement was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 61213.

knowledge and experience in financial and business matters to evaluate the merits and risks of its investment.

Each of the Applicants requests authorization to pledge assets as security for the debt issuance. A pledge of the Applicants' assets should not impair the availability of service to customers since the Applicants provide competitive services that are available from alternate service providers. Staff also concludes that the pledge of assets by any of the Applicants should not impair their financial status, further impair their ability to attract capital at fair and reasonable terms or impair their ability to provide safe, reasonable and adequate service (See A.A.C. R14-2(804)(C). However, customers may still have exposure to losses to the extent they have prepaid for service or made deposits. Accordingly, any authorization for encumbrances should provide customer protection for prepayments and deposits.

Staff recommends approval for each of the Applicants to pledge assets as a guarantee or to provide other forms of security for the applied for borrowings up to \$200 million subject to the condition that all Arizona customer deposits and prepayments, if any, be excluded from encumbrance, or in the alternative, be secured by a bond or an irrevocable sight draft letter of credit which is not included in the pledged collateral.

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Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. et al Docket Nos. T-02438B-06-0375, et al Page 1

Introduction

Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. ("GCTI"), Global Crossing North American Networks, Inc. ("GCNAN"), Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. ("GCLSI"), and Global Crossing Telemanagement, Inc. ("GC Telemanagement") collectively ("Applicants") filed an application with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") on June 2, 2006, requesting approval pursuant to A.R.S. §40-285 and R14-2-804(B)(1) to enter and possibly join as principal into a bank credit agreement and other instruments in concert with Global Crossing North America ("Parent") for general corporate purposes, capital expenses, working capital, and acquisition of other telecommunications companies and/or telecommunications equipment. Authority is also requested to pledge assets of the Applicants.

Public Notice

Notice of the financing application was published in the *Arizona Republic* on August 11, 2006. A copy of the notice is attached.

Background

The Applicants are non-dominant telecommunications carriers collectively with authority to provide competitive local exchange, intrastate and private line services within the state of Arizona. GCTI⁵ is a Michigan corporation; GCNAN⁶ is a New York corporation; GCLSI⁷ is a Delaware corporation; and GC Telemanagement⁸ is a Wisconsin corporation. The Applicants are wholly-owned subsidiaries of Parent, a Delaware corporation, which is in turn a wholly-owned subsidiary of Global Crossing Limited, an exempt company with limited liability organized under the laws of Bermuda. Applicants and Parent are headquartered in Pittsford, NY. Global Crossing Limited is headquartered Hamilton, Bermuda.

Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. provides facilities based competitive local exchange services to approximately 46 business customers in the Phoenix metro area. Global Crossing Local Services has invested in switch and facilities for intrastate telecommunications and also provides intrastate services through resale arrangements with other carriers. Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. is a long distance carrier that provides voice communications service to business customers throughout the United States and in Arizona. Global crossing North American Networks provides data transmission and communications services to business customers throughout the United States and Arizona. Global Crossing Telemanagement is a reseller of long distance telephone services. Overall the Companies provide services in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Customers of the Applicants have alternate service

⁵ GCTI is a Michigan corporation which was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 54505.

⁶ GCNAN is New York corporation which was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 60143.

⁷ GCLSI is a Delaware corporation which was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 61622.

⁸ GC Telemanagement is a Wisconsin corporation which was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 61213.

Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. et al Docket Nos. T-02438B-06-0375, et al Page 2

providers and would not experience significant harm in the event that the Applicants and/or Parent experiences financial difficulties.

Per the application, as of April 30, 2006, the Applicants hold no deposits or prepayments from Arizona customers.

Purpose of the Financing

The Applicants and Parent propose to use borrowed funds for general corporate purposes, capital expenses and working capital, as well as acquisition of other telecommunication companies and/or telecommunications assets. The Applicants assert that the proposed transaction will provide the financial resources needed to further grow and expand their businesses and to compete in today's highly competitive market.

Description of Proposed Financing

The proposed \$200 million new debt financing consists of a \$55 million senior revolving credit line and \$145 million in letters of credit, secured and unsecured notes and term loans. The terms of the financings have yet to be completed.

The Applicants anticipate that any interest rate will likely be the market rate for similar financing and will not be determined until such time as each financing is finalized. The interest rate will have two components, a base rate and a margin rate. The base rate would be defined as the base or prime rate charged by a specified major bank for loans of similar size with similar maturities or as an adjusted federal funds rate. The margin rate would be compensation over and above the base rate for the Parent's particular relative risk. It is expected that the revolving senior credit facility to be provided will bear interest at a rate equal to LIBOR plus 300 basis points or the bank's prime rate plus 150 basis points plus a commitment fee of 0.45 percent.

The Applicants also contemplate asset pledges that include, but are not limited to a security interest in their receivables, tangible personal property, equipment, intellectual property, their stock as well as substantially all of their North American assets as collateral security for the debt, i.e., credit facility and related loans.

Financial Analysis

Debt Issuance

Staff performed a financial analysis based on financial statements for the twelve-month fiscal year ended December 31, 2005. Staff's analysis revealed that the Applicants' financial circumstances are consistent with those commonly found in the telecommunications industry at present. Staff's analysis indicates that the financial metrics for issuance of the proposed debt for

⁹ The Applicants assert that the detailed information in Staff's financial analysis is confidential.

Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. et al Docket Nos. T-02438B-06-0375, et al Page 3

each of the Applicants fall short of standards typically considered consistent with sound financial practices. In the instance of utilities providing service to captive customers in a non-competitive circumstance, A.R.S. §40-301 prohibits authorization of debt unless the Commission finds that the debt issuance is compatible with sound financial practices. However, pursuant to A.R.S. §40-301(D), foreign public service corporations providing communication service whose facilities are also used in interstate commerce are exempt from application of the statute.

Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. ("GCTI") is the only entity among the Applicants that is participating directly in the borrowing, and Staff finds that it satisfies the criteria for exemption. GCTI also provides telecommunications services in competition with other providers and is not an incumbent provider of telecommunications services in Arizona. GCTI's customers have alternate service provider choices to mitigate any inconvenience that may result from its inability to provide service. Further, the anticipated lender is a sophisticated investor, and therefore, presumed to have the knowledge and experience in financial and business matters to evaluate the merits and risks of its investment.

Encumbrance

Each of the Applicants requests authorization to pledge assets as security for the debt issuance. A.R.S. §40-285 requires public service corporations to obtain Commission authorization to encumber certain utility assets. The statute serves to protect captive customers from a utility's act to dispose of any of its assets that are necessary for the provision of service, thus, it serves to preempt any service impairment due to disposal of assets essential for providing service. In this instance, a pledge of the Applicants' assets should not impair the availability of service to customers since the Applicants provide competitive services that are available from alternate service providers. However, customers may still have exposure to losses to the extent they have prepaid for service or made deposits. Accordingly, Staff finds that any authorization for encumbrances should provide customer protection for prepayments and deposits.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Staff concludes that issuance of the proposed debt would serve to assist the Applicants to operate effectively.

Staff concludes that the Applicants' financial metrics for issuance of the proposed debt are not consistent with sound financial practices.

Staff concludes that GCTI as a foreign public service corporation that provides communication service whose facilities are also used in interstate commerce is not prohibited by statute from obtaining Commission approval for the proposed debt despite its financial metrics.

Staff concludes that the pledge of assets by any of the Applicants should not further impair their financial status, further impair their ability to attract capital at fair and reasonable terms or impair their ability to provide safe, reasonable and adequate service [See A.A.C. R14-

Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. et al Docket Nos. T-02438B-06-0375, et al Page 4

2(804)(C)]. However, customers may still have exposure to losses to the extent they have prepaid for service or made deposits. Accordingly, any authorization for encumbrances should provide customer protection for prepayments and deposits.

Staff recommends approval for each of the Applicants to pledge assets as a guarantee or to provide other forms of security for the applied for borrowings up to \$200 million subject to the condition that all Arizona customer deposits and prepayments, if any, be excluded from encumbrance, or in the alternative, be secured by a bond or an irrevocable sight draft letter of credit which is not included in the pledged collateral.

Staff further recommends authorizing the Applicants to engage in any transactions and to execute or cause to be executed any documents so as to effectuate the authorizations requested with the application.

Staff further recommends that the Applicants' provide to the Commission within 60 days of the loan package closing, a copy of all notes and other documents memorializing the authorized transaction(s).

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Michael Bailey

Public Utilities Analyst III

Utilities Division

FROM:

Deb Reagan

Public Utilities Consumer Analyst II

Utilities Division

DATE:

June 13, 2006

UTILITY:

GLOBAL CROSSING TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.

Docket NO. T-02438B-06-0375

GLOBAL CROSSING NORTH AMERICAN NETWORKS, INC.

Docket NO. T-02761B-06-0375

GLOBAL CROSSING LOCAL SERVICES, INC.

Docket NO. T-03658A-06-0375

GLOBAL CROSSING TELEMANAGEMENT, INC.

Docket No. T-03539A-06-0375

In the matter of the application of Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc., Global Crossing North American Networks, Inc., Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. and Global Crossing Telemanagement, Inc. for approval to Encumber Assets in Connection with New Financing.

Per information received from the Corporations Division on June 13, 2006 regarding the corporate status of the above companies, all are in Good Standing.

In researching the Utilities database for complaints for these companies from January 1, 2003 through June 13, 2006, the results are listed below:

Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. - T-02438B

2006 - No Complaints, Inquiries, or Opinions

2005 - No Complaints

One Inquiry (unauthorized carrier)

One Opinion

2004 – One Complaint (billing) No Inquiries No Opinions

2003 – No Complaints Two Inquiries (billing) No Opinions

Global Crossing North American Networks - T-02761B

2006 – One Complaint (billing) No Inquiries No Opinions

2005 – One Complaint (billing) No Inquiries No Opinions

One Inquiry (unauthorized carrier)
No Opinions

2003 - One Complaint (unauthorized carrier)
One Inquiry (unauthorized carrier)
No Opinions

Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. - T-03658A

No Complaints, Inquiries or Opinions

Global Crossing Telemanagement, Inc. - T-03539A

No Complaints, Inquiries or Opinions

All Complaints, Inquiries and Opinions have been resolved.

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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JEFF HATCH-MILLER		
Chairman	2006 AUG 14 P 3: 51 PECENTE	= [-
WILLIAM A. MUNDELL	2006 AUG 14 P 3: 5: RECEIVE	*
Commissioner	A 7 OODD OOMMOOION	
MIKE GLEASON	AZ CORP COMMISSION AUG 1 5 2006 DOCUMENT CONTROL	
Commissioner	•	
KRISTIN K. MAYES	AZ CORP COM	IV
Commissioner	Director Utilitie	S
BARRY WONG		
Commissioner		
A TOTAL A POPULATION OF) DOCUMENTAL T 02420D 06 0275	
IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF) DOCKET NO. T-02438B-06-0375	
GLOBAL CROSSING	T-02761B-06-0375	
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC; GLOBAL) T-03658A-06-0375	
CROSSING NORTH AMERICAN NETWORKS,	T-03539A-06-0375	
INC.; GLOBAL CROSSING LOCAL SERVICES	o,)	
INC.; GLOBAL CROSSING) GLOBAL CROSSING NOTICE OF FILING	
TELEMANAGEMENT, INC. FOR APPROVAL) AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION	
TO ENCUMBER ASSETS IN CONNECTION) AFFIDAVII OF PUBLICATION	
WITH NEW FINANCING)	
	,	

Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc., Global Crossing North American Networks, Inc., Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. and Global Crossing Telemanagement, Inc. (collectively, the "Global Crossing" or "Applicants"), hereby file the attached Affidavit of Publication evidencing the public notice given on August 11, 2006, regarding the Application for Approval to Encumber Assets in Connection with New Financing.

Submitted this 14th day of August, 2006.

OSBORN MALEDON, P.A.

Joan S. Burke

Osborn Maledon P.A.

2929 North Central, Suite 2100

Phoenix, Arizona 85012

Telephone: (602) 640-9356 Facsimile: (602) 640-6074

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and

Joan M. Griffin
Melissa S. Conway
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3050 K Street, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20007
Telephone: (202) 342-8400
Facsimile: (202) 342-8452
JGriffin@kelleydrye.com
MConway@kelleydrye.com

Attorneys for:
Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc.,
Global Crossing North American Networks, Inc.,
Global Crossing Local Services, Inc., and
Global Crossing Telemanagement, Inc.

ORIGINAL and 19 copies of the foregoing filed this 14th day of August, 2006, with:

Docket Control Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Copy of the foregoing sent via hand-delivery this 14th day of August, 2006, to:

Michael Bailey Utilities Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Maureen A. Scott Senior Staff Counsel Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Brenda Wendt

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

STATE OF ARIZONA COUNTY OF MARICOPA

SS.

Karen Way, being first duly sworn, upon oath deposes and says: That she is a legal advertising representative of the Arizona Business Gazette, a newspaper of general circulation in the county of Maricopa, State of Arizona, published at Phoenix, Arizona, by Phoenix Newspapers Inc., which also publishes The Arizona Republic, and that the copy hereto attached is a true copy of the advertisement published in the said paper on the dates as indicated.

The Arizona Republic

August 11, 2006

Sworn to before me this 11TH day of August A.D. 2006

OFFICIAL SEAL

MARILYN GREENWOOD

NOTARY PUBLIC-ARIZONA

MARICOPA COUNTY

My Comm. Expires May 23, 2007

Windy Julian Public

1	BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION				
2	COMMISSIONERS				
3 4 5	JEFF HATCH-MILLER, Chairman WILLIAM A. MUNDELL MIKE GLEASON KRISTIN K. MAYES GARY PIERCE				
6 7 8 9	IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF GLOBAL CROSSING TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.; GLOBAL CROSSING NORTH AMERICAN NETWORKS, INC.; GLOBAL CROSSING LOCAL SERVICES, INC.; GLOBAL CROSSING TELEMANAGEMENT, INC. FOR APPROVAL TO ENCUMBER ASSETS IN CONNECTION WITH NEW FINANCING DOCKET NO. T-02438B-06-0375 T-03658A-06-0375 T-03539A-06-0375 DECISION NO. ORDER				
11 12 13 14	Open Meeting February 13 and 14, 2007 Phoenix, Arizona BY THE COMMISSION:				
15	FINDINGS OF FACT 1. Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. ("GCTI") ¹ , Global Crossing North American Networks, Inc. ("GCNAN") ² , Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. ("GCLSI") ³ , and Global Crossing Telemanagement, Inc. ("GC Telemanagement") ⁴ collectively ("Applicants") are				
16 17					
18	wholly-owned subsidiaries of Global Crossing North America, Inc. ("Parent") and are non-dominant				
19 20	telecommunications carriers with authority to provide competitive local exchange, intrastate, and				
21	2. The Applicants filed an application with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") on June 2, 2006, requesting approval pursuant to A.R.S. §40-285 and R14-2				
22 23					
2425	part of financing arrangements being arranged by Parent.				
262728	¹ GCTI is a Michigan corporation which was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 54505. ² GCNAN is New York corporation which was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 60143. ³ GCLSI is a Delaware corporation which was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 61622. ⁴ GC Telemanagement is a Wisconsin corporation which was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 61213.				

DECISION NO.

3. The Applicants request authorization to pledge assets as security and/or serve as borrowers or co-borrowers with Parent in connection with up to \$200 million of new debt financing that includes a \$55 million revolving senior credit facility and \$145 million as letters of credit, secured and unsecured debentures and term loans. The Applicants' contemplate asset pledges that include, but are not limited to, receivables, tangible personal property, equipment, intellectual property, their stock as well as substantially all of their North American assets.

- 4. The Applicants and/or Parent intend to use the proceeds for general corporate purposes, capital expenses, working capital, and acquisition of other telecommunications companies and/or telecommunications equipment. The Applicants assert that the financing arrangement will provide the financial resources needed to further grow and expand their business and to compete in a highly competitive telecommunications market.
- 5. Foreign public service corporations, such as Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc., that provide communication service whose facilities are also used in interstate commerce are exempt from application of A.R.S. §40-301 that prohibits authorization of debt unless the Commission finds that the debt issuance is compatible with sound financial practices. GCTI is the only entity among the Applicants that is participating directly in the borrowing, and Staff finds that it satisfies the criteria for exemption under A.R.S. §40-301(D). GCTI also provides telecommunications services in competition with other providers and is not an incumbent provider of telecommunications services in Arizona. Its customers have alternate service provider choices to mitigate any inconvenience that may result from an inability by GTCI to provide service. Further, the anticipated lender is a sophisticated investor, and therefore, presumed to have the knowledge and experience in financial and business matters to evaluate the merits and risks of its investment.
- 6. Each of the Applicants requests authorization to pledge assets as security for the debt issuance. A pledge of the Applicants' assets should not impair the availability of service to customers since the Applicants provide competitive services that are available from alternate service providers. Staff also concludes that the pledge of assets by any of the Applicants should not impair their financial status, further impair their ability to attract capital at fair and reasonable terms or

GCTI was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 54505.

GCNAN was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 60143. GCLSI was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 61622.

⁸ GC Telemanagement was granted a CC&N by the Commission in Decision No. 61213.

impair their ability to provide safe, reasonable and adequate service (See A.A.C. R14-2(804)(C). However, customers may still have exposure to losses to the extent they have prepaid for service or made deposits. Accordingly, any authorization for encumbrances should provide customer protection for prepayments and deposits.

- 7. Staff recommends approval for each of the Applicants to pledge assets as a guarantee or to provide other forms of security for the applied for borrowings up to \$200 million subject to the condition that all Arizona customer deposits and prepayments, if any, be excluded from encumbrance, or in the alternative, be secured by a bond or an irrevocable sight draft letter of credit which is not included in the pledged collateral.
- 8. Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. ("GCTI"), Global Crossing North American Networks, Inc. ("GCNAN"), Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. ("GCLSI"), and Global Crossing Telemanagement, Inc. ("GC Telemanagement") collectively ("Applicants") filed an application with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") on June 2, 2006, requesting approval pursuant to A.R.S. §40-285 and R14-2-804(B)(1) to enter and possibly join as principal into a bank credit agreement and other instruments in concert with Global Crossing North America ("Parent") for general corporate purposes, capital expenses, working capital, and acquisition of other telecommunications companies and/or telecommunications equipment. Authority is also requested to pledge assets of the Applicants.
- 9. Notice of the financing application was published in the *Arizona Republic* on August 11, 2006.
- 10. The Applicants are non-dominant telecommunications carriers collectively with authority to provide competitive local exchange, intrastate and private line services within the state of Arizona. GCTI⁵. is a Michigan corporation; GCNAN⁶ is a New York corporation; GCLSI⁷ is a Delaware corporation; and GC Telemanagement⁸ is a Wisconsin corporation. The Applicants are

wholly-owned subsidiaries of Parent, a Delaware corporation, which is in turn a wholly-owned subsidiary of Global Crossing Limited, an exempt company with limited liability organized under the laws of Bermuda. Applicants and Parent are headquartered in Pittsford, NY. Global Crossing Limited is headquartered Hamilton, Bermuda.

- 11. Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. provides facilities based competitive local exchange services to approximately 46 business customers in the Phoenix metro area. Global Crossing Local Services has invested in switch and facilities for intrastate telecommunications and also provides intrastate services through resale arrangements with other carriers. Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. is a long distance carrier that provides voice communications service to business customers throughout the United States and in Arizona. Global crossing North American Networks provides data transmission and communications services to business customers throughout the United States and Arizona. Global Crossing Telemanagement is a reseller of long distance telephone services. Overall the Companies provide services in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Customers of the Applicants have alternate service providers and would not experience significant harm in the event that the Applicants and/or Parent experiences financial difficulties.
- 12. Per the application, as of April 30, 2006, the Applicants hold no deposits or prepayments from Arizona customers.
- 13. The Applicants and Parent propose to use borrowed funds for general corporate purposes, capital expenses and working capital, as well as acquisition of other telecommunication companies and/or telecommunications assets. The Applicants assert that the proposed transaction will provide the financial resources needed to further grow and expand their businesses and to compete in today's highly competitive market.
- 14. The proposed \$200 million new debt financing consists of a \$55 million senior revolving credit line and \$145 million in letters of credit, secured and unsecured notes and term loans. The terms of the financings have yet to be completed.
- 15. The Applicants anticipate that any interest rate will likely be the market rate for similar financing and will not be determined until such time as each financing is finalized. The

The Applicants assert that the detailed information in Staff's financial analysis is confidential.

interest rate will have two components, a base rate and a margin rate. The base rate would be defined as the base or prime rate charged by a specified major bank for loans of similar size with similar maturities or as an adjusted federal funds rate. The margin rate would be compensation over and above the base rate for the Parent's particular relative risk. It is expected that the revolving senior credit facility to be provided will bear interest at a rate equal to LIBOR plus 300 basis points or the bank's prime rate plus 150 basis points plus a commitment fee of 0.45 percent.

- 16. The Applicants also contemplate asset pledges that include, but are not limited to a security interest in their receivables, tangible personal property, equipment, intellectual property, their stock as well as substantially all of their North American assets as collateral security for the debt, i.e., credit facility and related loans.
- 17. Staff performed a financial analysis based on financial statements for the twelve-month fiscal year ended December 31, 2005. Staff's analysis revealed that the Applicants' financial circumstances are consistent with those commonly found in the telecommunications industry at present. Staff's analysis indicates that the financial metrics for issuance of the proposed debt for each of the Applicants fall short of standards typically considered consistent with sound financial practices. In the instance of utilities providing service to captive customers in a non-competitive circumstance, A.R.S. §40-301 prohibits authorization of debt unless the Commission finds that the debt issuance is compatible with sound financial practices. However, pursuant to A.R.S. §40-301(D), foreign public service corporations providing communication service whose facilities are also used in interstate commerce are exempt from application of the statute.
- Applicants that is participating directly in the borrowing, and Staff finds that it satisfies the criteria for exemption. GCTI also provides telecommunications services in competition with other providers and is not an incumbent provider of telecommunications services in Arizona. GCTI's customers have alternate service provider choices to mitigate any inconvenience that may result from its inability to provide service. Further, the anticipated lender is a sophisticated investor, and therefore, presumed to

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have the knowledge and experience in financial and business matters to evaluate the merits and risks of its investment.

- 19. Each of the Applicants requests authorization to pledge assets as security for the debt issuance. A.R.S. §40-285 requires public service corporations to obtain Commission authorization to encumber certain utility assets. The statute serves to protect captive customers from a utility's act to dispose of any of its assets that are necessary for the provision of service, thus, it serves to preempt any service impairment due to disposal of assets essential for providing service. In this instance, a pledge of the Applicants' assets should not impair the availability of service to customers since the Applicants provide competitive services that are available from alternate service providers. However, customers may still have exposure to losses to the extent they have prepaid for service or made deposits. Accordingly, Staff finds that any authorization for encumbrances should provide customer protection for prepayments and deposits.
- 20. Staff has concluded that issuance of the proposed debt would serve to assist the Applicants to operate effectively.
- 21. Staff has concluded that the Applicants' financial metrics for issuance of the proposed debt are not consistent with sound financial practices.
- 22. Staff has concluded that the pledge of assets by any of the Applicants should not further impair their financial status, further impair their ability to attract capital at fair and reasonable terms or impair their ability to provide safe, reasonable and adequate service [See A.A.C. R14-2(804)(C)]. However, customers may still have exposure to losses to the extent they have prepaid for service or made deposits. Accordingly, any authorization for encumbrances should provide customer protection for prepayments and deposits.
- 23. Staff recommends approval for each of the Applicants to pledge assets as a guarantee or to provide other forms of security for the applied for borrowings up to \$200 million subject to the condition that all Arizona customer deposits and prepayments, if any, be excluded from encumbrance, or in the alternative, be secured by a bond or an irrevocable sight draft letter of credit which is not included in the pledged collateral.

- 24. Staff further recommends authorizing the Applicants to engage in any transactions and to execute or cause to be executed any documents so as to effectuate the authorizations requested with the application.
- 25. Staff further recommends that the Applicants' provide to the Commission within 60 days of the loan package closing, a copy of all notes and other documents memorializing the authorized transaction(s).

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Pursuant to A.R.S. Section 40-285, the Commission must approve any sale, lease, assignment, mortgage or disposal of or encumbrance of the whole or part of a public service corporation's assets necessary and useful in the performance of its duties to the public. Failure to obtain the Commission's approval of such transactions renders the transaction void.
- 2. Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-804(B), a utility will not, *inter alia*, consummate the following transactions without prior approval by the Commission: "...1. Obtain a financial interest in any affiliate not regulated by the Commission, or guarantee, or assume the liabilities of such affiliate."
- 3. The Commission has reviewed the Staff's findings, conclusions and recommendations in this matter and finds that they are reasonable.
- 4. Approval of the Companies' application complies with A.A.C. R14-2-804(C) and is in the public interest.

ORDER

IT IS THREFORE ORDERED that the Applicants' request to pledge assets as a guarantee or to provide other forms of security for the applied borrowings up to \$200 million is hereby approved, subject to the condition that all Arizona customer deposits and prepayments, if any, be excluded form encumbrance, or in the alternative, be secured by a bond or an irrevocable sight draft letter of credit which is not included in the pledged collateral.

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1	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Applicants are hereby authorized to engage in an				
2	transactions and to execute or cause to be executed any documents so as to effectuate the				
.3	authorizations requested with the application.				
4					
5	days of the loan package closing, a copy of all notes and other documents memorializing the				
6	authorized transaction(s).				
7	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.				
8					
9	BY ORDER OF	THE ARIZONA CORPORAT	ION COMMISSION		
10					
11	CHAIRMAN		COMMISSIONER		
12					
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14	COMMISSIONER	COMMISSIONER	COMMISSIONER		
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18		DI MUZIEGO MUIEDEOE I	DRIAN C MANELL Exception		
19		Director of the Arizona C	BRIAN C. McNEIL, Executive Corporation Commission, have		
20		Commission to be affixed at the	caused the official seal of this e Capitol, in the City of Phoenix,		
21		this day of February, 200			
22	·	BRIAN C. McNEIL	· ·		
23		Executive Director			
24	DICCENT.				
25	DISSENT:	<u>-</u>			
26	DISSENT:				
27 28	DIOODITI.	_			
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1	SERVICE LIST FOR: GLOBAL CROSSING TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.; GLOBAL
2	CROSSING NORTH AMERICAN NETWORKS, INC.; GLOBAL CROSSING LOCAL SERVICES, INC.; GLOBAL CROSSING
3	TELEMANAGEMENT, INC. DOCKET NOS. T-02438B-06-0375, T-02761B-06-0375, T-03658A-06-0375, T-03530A-06-0375
4	DOCKET 100. 1 02 13 02 00 03 73, 1 02 70 12 00 03 70, 1 03 03 01 00 03 72, 1 03 03 01 00 03 73
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7	Phoenix, Arizona 85012
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14	Pittsford, New York 14534
15	Mr. Christopher C. Kempley
16	Chief Counsel, Legal Division Arizona Corporation Commission
17	1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007
	Mr. Ernest G. Johnson Director, Utilities Division
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20	Phoenix, Arizona 85007
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